# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1435
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2000
PATENT OF TRADITIONAL HERBAL PRODUCTS
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of different traditional and ancient Indian herbal products like Neem, Turmeric, various vegetables and plants available in India itself and their reference has been made in Indian System of Medicine also to include them in the patent system;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measure being taken by the Government to stop foreign competition from getting Indian items patented ?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH)

(a) to (b) : The Government has initiated steps to document knowledge of drugs & plants available in Indian ancient texts to bring it within public domain to prevent their patenting. A Traditional Knowledge Digital Library Task Force has been set up for this purpose.

(c): Patents are granted by respective Governments under their patent laws. Whenever information is received about the patents being taken on certain products which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of patent can be challenged.